

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 05257 200912Z

15/11

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SSO-00 INSE-00 VO-03

SCA-01 SY-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 /034 W

----- 058886

O R 180958Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6578

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO LINE TO READ N/A VICE GDS)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, SN

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES - BOAT CASE- SINGAPORE TRAWLER

1. SINGAPORE STRAITS TIMES OF NOVEMBER 18 CARRIED ARTICLE HEADLINED "TRAWLER SAVES 13 DRIFTING VIET REFUGEES." ARTICLE REPORTS A SINGAPORE TRAWLER PICKED UP 13 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FLOATING ON EMPTY OIL DRUMS OUTSIDE PORT WATERS AND BROUGHT THEM TO SINGAPORE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16. THE REFUGEES, ALL MEN, WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE CLUNG TO THEIR OIL DRUMS AFTER THEIR VESSEL SANK.

2. EMBOFF IN TELCON WITH UNHCR OFFICE REP FOUINAT AT KUALA LUMPUR WAS INFORMED THAT THE TRAWLER WAS BERTHED AT THE KANGAR FISHING VILLAGE, AND THAT GOS HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW THEM TO DISEMBARK. THE MASTER OF THE TRAWLER COMPLAINED TO REP. FOUINAT THAT HE WAS BEING DEPRIVED OF HIS LIVELIHOOD. THE MASTER WAS INFORMED

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PAGE 02 SINGAP 05257 200912Z

THAT UNHCR COULD PROVIDE FOR THE REFUGEES'S MAINTENANCE,

BUT HAD NO FUNDS TO COMPENSATE HIM FOR HIS LOSSES. THE MASTER RESPONDED THAT IF HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO LAND THE REFUGEES, HE WOULD HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO UNLOAD THEM AT SEA. E.G., DUMPING THEM OVER THE SIDE.

3. SINGAPORE UNHCR ASSISTANT KWOK HAS SUPPLIED NAMES AND BIRTH DATES OF THE THIRTEEN MEN. EMBASSY NOTES THAT ALL 13, AGES 12 TO 24, ARE STUDENTS WITH NO RELATIVES OR TIES TO U.S. HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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